

What's New in the MPDC

NOVEMBER 12, 2001

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT HONORS ITS HEROES

Last fall, Detectives Robert Arrington and Lavinia Quigley were sitting in their vehicle, reviewing last-minute plans for an undercover narcotics operation, when two men approached, produced semi-automatic weapons, and announced a stick-up. Quigley was able to draw her service weapon and identify herself as a police officer. One of the hold-up men responded by opening fire on the detectives, then both suspects raced toward a get-away vehicle occupied by two other men. The suspects fired at the detectives once again, and the detectives returned fire. Eventually, two of the offenders attempted to flee on foot, but were soon caught, while Quigley and Arrington apprehended and disarmed the subjects in the get-away car. Last May, two residents were walking near the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Davis Street, NW, when they heard a woman scream, "That's the guy – he stole my purse!" The pair, along with two other citizens gave chase, as two other residents were calling police with detailed information about the crime and the suspect. The citizens saw the suspect drop the victim's purse in an alley, then alerted responding Second District units that he was hiding in nearby bushes, where he was arrested. Arrington, Quigley and the six citizens were among 300 police officers, civilian employees and community members honored during the MPDC's 2nd Annual Awards Ceremony, held at DAR Constitutional Hall. For a complete list of award winners, go to:

As part of this year's ceremony, the MPDC and Deputy Mayor Margret Kellems paid special tribute to the agencies that responded so heroically to the terrorist attacks of September 11th. Special Medals of Valor were presented to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department (it lost 37 officers at the World Trade Center, apparently the largest single-day loss suffered by a police agency in US history), as well as the New York City Police and Fire Departments, Defense Protective Service, the Arlington County Police and Fire Departments, and the DC Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services. Thirty-members of the MPDC's rescue and recovery team also received Achievement Medals during the ceremony.

mpdc.dc.gov/about/heroes/merit/annual2001/main.shtm

NOVEMBER CHAMPS OF THE MPDC

In addition to the Annual Awards Ceremony, this week included the monthly CHAMPS (Capital Hotels Award Metropolitan Police Service) awards luncheon for outstanding MPDC officers. Departmental Officer of the Month was Brad Law of the Fourth District (he also received a Medal of Valor at the Annual Awards Ceremony). Earlier this year, Law was working the evening tour foot beat in the Mount Pleasant community when he noticed two men exchange a handgun. Law followed the gunman and confronted him, at which point the suspect turned, pulled the handgun and pointed it directly at the officer. Law reacted immediately, grabbed the gun, and placed the suspect under arrest all without having to use deadly force himself on a street crowded with pedestrian. To read more about Officer Law's heroics, as well as the outstanding actions of all of this month's CHAMPS awardees, click on:

For its sponsorship of the monthly CHAMPS awards, as well as its support of other MPDC projects, the Hotel Association of Washington, DC, and several of its member hotels were presented with Chief of Police Special Awards during the Annual Awards Ceremony.

mpdc.dc.gov/about/heroes/champs/2001/11.shtm

20 NEW "LATERAL HIRE" OFFICERS HIT THE STREETS

Chief Ramsey this week welcomed the 20 newest members of the MPDC – Lateral Class 2001-2. These officers are experienced law enforcement professionals hired under the MPDC's "lateral hire" program, which was initiated more than a year ago to boost both the number and quality of police officers in DC. The new group includes officers from local, state and federal agencies in DC, New York, Boston, Miami, Fla., Charleston, SC, and Puerto Rico, among other locations. The MPDC continues to work to increase its sworn ranks from 3,600 to 3,800. In addition to providing the MPDC with experienced officers, one benefit of the "lateral hire" program is that officers complete a vigorous, but condensed training program, meaning they can hit the streets sooner after hire. For detailed information about the lateral hiring process in the MPDC, visit:

mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/polateral.shtm

BECOMING A "SEPTEMBER 11TH VOLUNTEER"

For information about youth crime prevention programs in DC and how residents can get involved, call the MPDC's Office of Youth Violence Prevention at 202-727-7752.

In a speech to the nation on Thursday, President Bush encouraged Americans to become personally involved in the war on terrorism by become a "September 11th Volunteer." The President specifically mentioned volunteer opportunities such as youth mentoring and Neighborhood Watch efforts. The MPDC offers a

range of opportunities for DC residents to become "September 11th Volunteers." First and foremost, residents can get involved in crime prevention activities on their PSAs, many of which sponsor citizen patrol or other neighborhood watch programs [<http://mpdc.dc.gov/info/districts/districts.shtm>]. "Partnerships for Problem Solving" is another volunteer opportunity. In this program, residents, police and other city agencies learn how to work together to tackle problems of crime and disorder in their neighborhoods [<http://mpdc.dc.gov/serv/programs/ppsfactsheet.shtm>]. And, of course, the DC Crime Solvers program offers cash rewards for individuals who provide police with successful crime tips and clues [mpdc.dc.gov/serv/solvers/solvers.shtm]. For a list of ways that residents can get involved in community policing in DC, click on:

Read the complete text of President Bush's speech, including his call for "September 11th Volunteers," at:
www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2001/11/20011108-13.html

mpdc.dc.gov/pfp/involved.shtm

Information, ideas or comments about this service?

E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kevin.morison@dc.gov.

Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with crimereports.com.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE
MPDC.DC.GOV